

REMARKS

The Examiner has required a restriction between the claims of Group I, claims 1-13, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 738, and the claims of Group II, claims 14-25, drawn to a method of fabricating a semiconductor device, classified in class 438, subclass 106.

Applicant elects the claims of Group I, claims 1-13, and traverses the Restriction Requirement. The claims of Group I are drawn to a housing for a semiconductor device. The claims of Group II are drawn to a method of fabricating a housing for a semiconductor device. An examination of the claims of either group will require a search for subject matter relating to housing for semiconductors, accordingly the searches required for the two groups of claims are sufficiently interrelated that the Examiner would not be unduly burdened to consider both groups at the same time.

MPEP Section 803 states that if a search and examination of all the claims of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner is encouraged to examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions. In the present situation, no serious burden upon the Examiner is seen by examining all of the claims of the present application.

It is respectfully solicited that the Examiner remove the Restriction Requirement and examine all claims on their merits. However, if the Restriction Requirement is repeated and made Final, Applicant reaffirms the election of the claims of Group I, claims 1-13.

Any fees due with this Reply may be charged to Deposit Account **23-1665** under Customer Number **27267**.

If a telephone conference would aid in the continued prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel K. Lau, et al.

Date: September 14, 2006
Reg. No. 56,896

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